

Church News

Program

Of the Kosciusko Co. Association to be held at Milford, Ind., April 8, 9, 1899.

SATURDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Devotional, D. A. Hopkins.

Secretary's Report.

Pastors' Reports.

"How Does this Association Benefit Humanity," Mrs. Nettie Rhorer.

Miscellaneous.

EVENING SESSION, 7:30.

Devotional, A. S. Menaugh.

"Our Individual Responsibility in the World's Evangelization," C. F. Yoder.

Can a Christian Vote with a Party that he Knows Will License Saloons, Jesse Calvert.

Sunday School Work, Mrs. Emily Baker.

Young People's Work, Mrs. Grace Rench.

SUNDAY.

6:30 Prayer and Praise Meeting, led by L. A. Hazlett.

9:30 Sunday School.

10:30 Sermon, D. A. Hopkins.

2:30 Address, L. A. Hazlett.

3:15 Junior Meeting, C. F. Yoder.

7:30 Devotional, H. C. Marks.

8:00 Sermon, A. S. Menaugh.

MAUDE MINEAR,

DAVID PFLEINDERER,

MRS. J. CALVERT,

Committee.

Holsingerisms, No. 23

As is known to all careful EVANGELIST readers, we left our pleasant home at Berlin, Pa., on the 9th of January. Our first stop was at Ashland. We had intended to stop first at Congress, but changed the program to suit the railroad connections, and so we dropped in on the EVANGELIST family quite unexpectedly, as careful readers will also have observed. Nevertheless we had a very pleasant visit with them. It happened to be at a very busy period for Editor Gnagey, but he managed to find a little time to talk to me on Church, College and EVANGELIST business, and a few personal items. We happened to know how it is ourself, and so I tried to avoid imposing on good nature. We also met and interviewed brother and sister Allen Miller, and brother Ira Slotter. Our stay was too short to have much satisfaction, which might have been lengthened out if my speech would have enabled me to conduct and enjoy a successful interview. From what I could learn I am on the safe side of truth when I state that all our church interests are in a healthy state, but not as vigorous as they should be, and may be expected to be before the end of the present century.

Our next visit was to brother P. J. Brown's, Congress, Ohio, where we spent four days very pleasantly. The weather and the roads were too bad to do neighborhood visiting, besides the time was not too long for our interview with Brother Brown, and the sisters were not nearly done talking. I regret

that we could not get to church on Sunday so that we might have met other members of the Fairhaven congregation.

On Monday evening the 16th we landed safely at our cousins, brother and sister Enoch Rhorer, Milford, Ind. Here we also met my only aunt living east of the Mississippi river, sister Susan Baringer, ninety-three years of age. Also a number of other relatives and friends, whom we love dearly. Brother Rench, pastor of the Brethren church, was in the midst of an interesting revival and so we had an opportunity of hearing him preach four sermons and of observing his methods. I was highly pleased with his sermons and services. I very much admire his manner of preaching, free and off-hand, making but little use of notes. Certainly I can appreciate a good sermon well read, but I prefer a good discourse well delivered all the time. If I had my life to do over I would preach no other way. Reading may be good but declaiming is better, and I advise all beginners to prefer the "more excellent way."

Our next stop was at Chicago with our friend and kinsman, Dr. P. Fahrney, the successful manufacturer of proprietary medicines. Our acquaintance dates away back to the middle of the present century and we have both attained that period in life when men are inclined to look backward for occasions of interest and conversation; and if we should conduct such an interview, we would never get to a suitable stopping place. But the Doctor is in much better circumstances now than he was during our youthful associations, and I'm better satisfied with my lot than I was then; and financially I've held my own pretty well. I started out with nothing and I have at least twice that much now, besides a number of kind friends who seem disposed to take care of us. The Fahrney family did that in a liberal manner during our sojourn with them and sent us away with an abundant lunch basket which lasted all the way to Phoenix, Arizona.

We also visited Dr. J. E. Roop's, one of the charter members of the Brethren church, at Ashland, Ohio, and of the Chicago Brethren mission. We also spent a day and a night at brother J. O. Talley's and made the acquaintance of our city missionaries, Brother Talley and Sister Gibbons, and attended one of their services at night. Brother Talley gave a talk on the Sunday-school lesson which seemed to be well received by the few members present. It must be very discouraging to preach to such a few persons with so many thousands in reach. If somebody will fill the church with people, we believe our missionaries will teach them the truth faithfully as they are intensely earnest and sincerely devoted to their work. We had intended to make other visits and calls in the city, but the weather was too intensely cold for me to be outdoors. Had also expected to stop off at Kansas City to visit our cousins, Elder William and Major Frank Holsinger, but the same reasons caused us to push forward toward a warmer climate.

We reached our daughter Lottie's Monday morning, January 30th. It seemed like getting into a new world at Phoenix. Almond, peach and apricot trees were in bloom and birds warbling in the parks. It was indeed a wonderful change of climate but the people coughed and sneezed and complained of the grip just as they had done in the arctic regions from which we had just come. We soon discovered that the city was a vast hospital of invalids from all parts of the east seeking the benefits of a milder climate, not all of whom were convalescing. Our children were in better condition than we had reason to expect to find them, for which we were grateful. Our son in law is special agent for the United States government and was called to Tuscan on business, after we had been there a few days. Otherwise we had a very pleasant visit with them of just two weeks. We also spent a day with brother H. B. Lehman's at Glendale, and took dinner at brother Walter McClain's. Sister McClain is a sister to Editor Gnagey. I must forbear commenting on the merits of Arizona at this time; my visit was too brief to learn for myself, and the people do not all agree so we could not take their testimony. At any rate nobody should locate in a new country from what any body else might say about it; better see for yourself or remain where you are.

On the morning of February 15 we landed at Rosena, our home, from whence I wrote my first "Holsingerisms" about five years ago. When we left it three years ago I never expected to see the place again, as I was then going east to die and be "gathered with the fathers." It is marvelous how little I can penetrate the future. When I first came to this place in the spring of 1893, I had great hopes and bright visions of the future. I bought land and builded me a nice home and expected to remain here the remainder of my natural life time; but before my house was finished my eyes began to open to the mistake I had made in location and to realize the force of the proverb, "We never miss the water 'till the well runs dry." We did not miss our water until our trees had made a year's growth, when I realized that the fountain was dry and must remain dry. But our friends do not like me to "run down" their country, altho some of them would gladly leave it if they could. Neither would I be understood as saying that the country had anything that was bad; it is the good thing it has *not*, that makes it an undesirable place to live in, namely, water for irrigating. If I had plenty of water to irrigate my five acres of land, I would deem myself in very good circumstances, financially.

There still reside at Rosena the following members of the Brethren church: Elder John Nicholson and wife and daughter, sister Maggie Hill, sister Louisa A. Albaugh and Sister Showalter. These faithful few are striving hard to keep unfurled the gospel banner. I do wish I might do more for them than simply to pray for them, but be-